(b) what provision is made by Government for food security of the rural population of Jharkhand;

(c) what is the percentage of villages having proper civil supply facilities in Jharkhand; and

(d) the details of the plan of Government to provide civil supply facilities in the villages of Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The State Government of Jharkhand has informed as follows:

(i) No report has been received from any district about large population not getting two meals a day.

(ii) Foodgrains are being provided to targeted families under Antyodaya, Mukhyamantri Khadyan Sahayata Yojana (BPL) and APL under the Targeted Public Distribution System. Regular monitoring is being done.

(iii) All the villages of Jharkhand are covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System.

(iv) For proper and timely distribution of foodgrains, the State Government has taken a decision for door step delivery of foodgrains to Fair Price Shops.

Complaints in consumer courts of Maharashtra

3718. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of complaints received by consumer courts in Maharashtra during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed of during that period, year-wise; and

(c) the total number of accumulated cases pending for disposal till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The total number of complaints received by Consumer Fora in Maharashtra during last three years, year-wise as informed by National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), is as follows:

Year	State Commission	District Fora	Total
2006	3183	10942	14125
2007	4708	11780	16488
2008	4673	16956	21629

(b) The number of cases disposed off during the period, year-wise as informed by NCDRC, is as follows:

Year	State Commission	District Fora	Total
2006	2063	14614	16677
2007	3153	12830	15983
2008	3935	16375	20310

(c) The total number of accumulated cases pending for disposal at the end of 2008, as informed by NCDRC, is as follows:

Year	State Commission	District Fora	Total
End of 2008	17755	14181	31936

Stem cell therapy to cure blindness

3719. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that British scientists from the Institute of Ophthalmology at University College of London have developed the world's first stem cell therapy to cure the most common cause of blindness; and

(b) if so, the details of the discovery?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Ministry does not maintain information on research underway in United Kingdom.

Shortage of pentavalent vaccine

3720. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government is taking to overcome the shortage of pentavalent vaccine in the country; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the shortage of pentavalent vaccine is affecting the immunization programme against Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Hepatitis-B and HIB?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Government of India is planning to introduce Pentavalent combination vaccine of DPT – Hepatitis B – Hib (Haemophilus influenzae b) in 5 States, namely, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu during 2009-10 to 2011-12. Cabinet approval is being sought for the same. The domestic vaccine industry has assured adequate availability of Pentavalent vaccine.

(b) No. As the vaccine is yet to be introduced, it has no bearing on immunization with Hepatitis B, DPT (Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus) and Hib vaccines.

Mortality rate in Assam due to cancer

3721. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: